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List No. 15

# UNUSUAL SEEDS

*For Late Spring and Summer  
Sowing*

RECEIVED

APR 25 1931 ★

An offer of seeds of Cacti, Succulents, Liliums, Irises, and other interesting flowering bulbs and related plants. Here are the "hard to find" sorts.



**REX. D. PEARCE**

*Grower and Importer*

6930 WALNUT AVENUE

MERCHANTVILLE, N. J.

## DIRECTIONS FOR ORDERING

The present List offers seeds of various new species, together with such older kinds as may be particularly suitable for late spring or summer sowing. It does not replace List No. 14, but is intended as a supplement to it. A considerable portion of the seed is of my own growing, but part of it comes from other growers and from collectors in various odd corners of the world. Seed is offered subject to arrival, although I expect to have nearly all sorts in hand when this list is mailed. I try to send out only good seeds, but I cannot control the conditions under which they are planted, and I do not guarantee the results, nor will I be in any way responsible for the crop. If these conditions are not acceptable, seed purchased is to be returned at once, when money paid for it will be cheerfully refunded.

**PAYMENT**—All prices are post-paid and safe arrival is guaranteed. Money orders are preferred remittance form, but personal checks are acceptable. Please send full payment with orders. I do not ship C.O.D.

**SPECIAL PACKAGES**—These contain not less than three times as much seed as the regular retail packets. They are sometimes called **TRADE PACKETS**.

**CULTURAL DIRECTIONS**—A leaflet giving full directions for growing various bulbs from seed, is sent out with every lot of seeds sold. It is not necessary to request it.

## IXIOLIRION PALLASI

This pretty flower is called the Ixia Lily from the shape of the blooms, although it belongs to the Amaryllis family. The graceful stems bear many clusters of beautiful deep blue trumpets. Easy to grow, and a splendid addition to the garden. In the north, the bulbs are usually lifted and stored like gladioli, but in mild climates they will carry over winter in the garden. Pkt. 20c; special pkg. 50c;  $\frac{1}{4}$  oz. \$1.00.

## **FREESIA RAGIONIERI**

A new strain of Hybrid Freesias, giving seedlings that vastly surpass in brilliant coloring, size of flower, and length of stem, anything previously evolved. Here are all the hues of the rainbow. Pkt. 30c; special pkg. 75c.

## **OPHIOPOGON JAPONICA**

Lily Tuft. Attractive dwarf plants that will soon form turf-like mats, thriving where grass will not grow. Also used for edgings. It remains green and flourishing in the driest, hottest weather and will grow in sun or shade. The pretty little drooping flowers are pale lilac in color. Needs protection north of Washington. Pkt. 15c; special pkg. 35c;  $\frac{1}{4}$  oz. 65c.

## **FRITILLARIA PURDYI**

A rare and lovely species, bearing bell shaped flowers, white, netted and flushed with crimson. Pkt. 25c; special pkg. 60c.

## **POLYGONATUM MULTIFLORUM**

David's Harp. The graceful arching stems bear clusters of pendant snowy bells. This is one of the few bulb-like plants that prefers shade, and it will thrive even in woodland, if given good soil. It naturalizes well among ferns. Hardy, Pkt. 15c; special pkg. 35c;  $\frac{1}{4}$  oz. 65c.

## **EREMURUS, PEERLESS BLEND**

The magnificent Desert Lily bears spikes four to eight feet high, filled with myriads of starry flowers in white, and in various shades of pink, rose, yellow, copper and orange. I offer a blend of varieties and species that will show a marvelous diversity of rare colorings. Pkt. of 25 seeds for 20c; 50 seeds for 35c; 100 seeds for 65c; 500 seeds for \$2.75.

## **HELLEBORUS NIGER**

The Christmas Rose. Tinted white. Blooms in winter. Pkt. 15c; special pkg. 35c.

### THREE RARE BULBS

**Bloomeria Crocea**—Bright golden orange flowers in umbels on 18 inch stems. Very attractive. Pkt. 25c; special pkg. 60c.

**Dierama Pendula**—Bell shaped flowers in diversified shades of rose and amaranth, hang pendant from the tall and graceful arching stems. Pkt. 25c; special pkg. 60c.

**Glorissa Superba.** The Scarlet and Gold Climbing Lily. Easily grown from seed. 20 seeds for 25c; 50 seeds for 60c; 100 seeds for \$1.00.

Collection of one packet each of the above three easily grown sorts for 60c.

### IRIS SIBIRICA GROUP

The Siberian Irises grow readily from late sown seed, and thrive in almost any location. They are effective for border clumps or to edge a path, yet they are not too large for the rockery. Very hardy. The flowers are produced in greatest profusion and are long lasting when cut.

**Blue King**—Deep blue, penciled with purple. Pkt. 15c;  $\frac{1}{4}$  oz. 50c; 1 oz. \$1.75.

**Snow Queen**—Clear ivory white. Pkt. 20c;  $\frac{1}{4}$  oz. 60c; 1 oz. \$2.00.

**Pearl**—Fine light blue. Pkt. 20c; special pkg. 50c.

**Perry's Blue**—True azure blue. Large flowers. Pkt. 20c; special pkg. 50c.

**Iris Sibirica Blend**—A wonderful blend of many named sorts. Color range will be from white, through various shades of blue, to violet. Many will show white markings. Pkt. 10c;  $\frac{1}{4}$  oz. 30c; 1 oz. \$1.00;  $\frac{1}{4}$  lb. \$3.00.

**Iris Wilsoni**—For all practical purposes this is a clear primrose yellow Iris Sibirica. Still rare. Very fine. Pkt. 40c; special pkg. \$1.00.

**Siberian Iris Collection**—One pkt. each of the above six, for \$1.00.

## EIGHT RARE LILIES

A selection of the more unusual species. See List No. 14 for other sorts.

**Lilium Princeps**—The original Farquhar hybrid between L. Regale and L. Sargentiae. In form and coloring it is practically a Regale, but later flowering, thus doubling the blooming season. Easier to handle than Sargentiae. Usually bears stem bulblets. 25 seed pkt. for 20c; 100 seeds for 75c; 250 seeds for \$1.75; 1000 seeds for \$6.50.

**Lilium Golden Gleam**—A pure golden yellow form of Tenuifolium, growing just as quickly from seed and blooming even more freely. 25 seed pkt. for 30c; 100 seeds for \$1.00; 250 seeds for \$2.25.

**Lilium Marhan Hybrids**—This gives interesting buff or orange sorts, often with rosy violet suffusions. Saved from L. Hansoni-L. Martagon hybrids. 25 seed pkt. for 35c; 50 seeds for 65c; 100 seeds for \$1.20.

**Lilium Kelloggi**—Dainty reflexed flowers of mauve pink, sometimes banded with cream or dotted maroon. Fragrant. Pkt. 35c; special pkg. 85c.

**Lilium Parryi**—A dwarf, graceful, delightfully perfumed Lily, with lemon yellow flowers. Pkt. 40c; special pkg. 90c.

**Lilium Rubescens**—Pale lilac trumpets, shaded with pansy violet. Intensely fragrant. Pkt. 40c; special pkg. 90c.

**Lilium Wilmottiae**—Recurved flowers of vivid apricot orange, spotted with rich brown. A graceful, hardy, and free-blooming species, but still rare. Flowers second year from seed, which grows strongly. Pkt. 35c; special pkg. 85c.

**Lilium Concolor**—Red Star Lily. Upright star-like flowers of brightest vermilion. Dwarf. A gem for the rockery. Pkt. 25c; special pkg. 60c; ¼ oz. \$1.50.

**Lily Collection**—One pkt. each of the above eight Lilies for \$2.25.



## LILIUM REGALE

Snowy white trumpets, but primrose yellow in throat and rosy on the reverse. Hardy. Grows quickly from seed. Pkt. 10c;  $\frac{1}{4}$  oz. 25c; 1 oz. 65c;  $\frac{1}{4}$  lb. \$2.00.

## ANEMONE, HIS EXCELLENCY

Very large cups of brilliant scarlet. A new Wind-flower, making knobby tubers. Pkt. 20c; special pkg. 50c.

## SEEDS OF INTERESTING SUCCULENTS

The succulents, bizarre and exotic in appearance, with their thick fleshy leaves and odd shapes, are yet just as easily grown from seed as the other and more usual perennial plants. Many of them, in addition to their interesting form, have exceedingly attractive flowers. The kinds offered are winter hardy, with the exception of Aloe, and, in the colder regions, Echeveria.

**Sempervivum, Hardy Blend**—The leaves are short and thick, carried in compact rosettes, and are often red spotted toward the tip. Evergreen in winter. In the so-called spider-web forms, the entire plant appears to be covered with silvery cob-web filaments. The flowers, in dense heads, are variously colored. Sempervivums are of easiest culture, thriving even in sandy wastes, and they are unsurpassed for rock work or for covering dry banks. Pkt. 20c; special pkg. 50c.

**Sedums, Mixed**—Hardy perennials grown primarily for the ornamental value of the thick succulent leaf formation, although many also have showy flowers. The plants vary almost as widely as do Cacti. Ideal for the rockery. Pkt. 25c; special pkg. 60c.

**Echeveria Mixed**—These have fleshy, succulent, often brightly colored dense rosettes. The pretty yellow or rosy-red flowers are borne in loose panicles.



Echeverias are valuable for flat bedding or for rockeries. Seed offered is saved from many variable species. Pkt. of 50 seeds for 25c; 200 seeds for 75c.

**Saxifraga**—The Saxifrages or Rockfoils are mostly hardly perennials of dwarf growth, and, as their name would suggest, the rockery is their natural setting, although they are also good in the border. They vary much in form, some having large leaves, but others only moss-like foliage, making dense mats. Among the more interesting species are those showing a vari-colored or silvery effect, produced by natural incrustations of mineral on the leaves. Nearly all have pretty flowers. I offer seed in a mixture of the different types. Pkt. 25c; special pkg. 60c.

**Aloe, True African**—Rugged plants with thick, succulent spiky leaves and tall heads of attractive flowers in various shades of yellow, orange and scarlet. Not hardy in the north, but about the finest of all plants for growing in tubs or large pots. Often plunged in the border in summer. Long-lived. 20 seed pkt. for 15c; 100 seeds for 60c.

**Yucca Filamentosa**—Adam's Needle. Not really a succulent, but usually considered one. Ornamental dagger shaped foliage, above which rise in June great spikes of creamy white flowers 6 to 10 feet high in well-grown plants. Entirely hardy, and seed comes up quickly. Pkt. 10c; ¼ oz. 25c; 1 oz. 75c; ¼ lb. \$2.25.

**Succulent Collection**—One pkt. each of above six succulents for \$1.00.

### AMARYLLIS, PEERLESS HYBRIDS

This strain of Giant Amaryllis shows blooms of a marvelous diversity of colorings, ranging from tinted white, through shades of rose, to deepest crimson. 15 seeds for 25c; 50 seeds for 75c; 100 seeds for \$1.25; 250 seeds for \$3.00.

## VARIOUS IRIS SPECIES

The Iris family gives us some of our most interesting and showy flowers for outdoor bloom. The kinds offered are all hardy, and all may be easily grown from seeds sown in Spring, Summer or Fall.

**Iris Aurea**—A noble species from the Himalayas, with large flowers of rich golden yellow, carried on tall stems. Pkt. 25c; special pkg. 65c.

**Iris Bracteata**—Crowded tufts of foliage from which rise pretty flowers of soft yellow, netted with brown purple. Pkt. 15c; special pkg. 35c.

**Iris Chrysofor**—A new and interesting race of hybrid Irises, producing in June multitudes of beautiful orchid-like flowers on 12 to 15-inch stems. They are particularly valuable for the rockery or for cutting. Will last for several days in water. Colors range from white, through sulphur and gold, to rich bronze, from soft blue and lavender, to deepest purple. About the quickest Iris to flower from seed. Pkt. 35c; special pkg. 85c.

**Iris Chrysographes**—An exquisite Chinese species with large velvety purple flowers, richly veined and splashed with gold. Pkt. 25c; special pkg. 60c.

**Iris Douglasiana**—A widely variable Iris, running from cream to lilac and violet, the flowers often veined with creamy yellow or brown-purple. Rather dwarf. Pkt. 15c; special pkg. 35c.

**Iris, Dwarf Hybrids (Iris Pumila)**—The earliest flowering class, growing only a few inches high and of especial value for the rockery or for edgings. Flowers of remarkable size, in various combinations of blue, yellow, purple and white. Mixed colors. Pkt. 15c; special pkg. 30c;  $\frac{1}{4}$  oz. 60c; 1 oz. \$2.00.

**Iris Graminea**—A very easily grown rock garden Iris with flowers of rich rosy wine color. Pkt. 20c; special pkg. 50c.

**Iris, Gladwyn**—A species grown for its handsome seed pods which split to show rows of brilliant scarlet seeds. Prized for winter decoration. Small purple flowers. Pkt. 10c; special pkg. 25c.

**Iris Missouriensis**—A charming species with evergreen foliage and soft blue flowers, marked with yellow. Sometimes varies to white. Pkt. 15c; special pkg. 30c;  $\frac{1}{4}$  oz. 60c.

**Iris Ochroleuca Gigantea**—The Gold-banded Iris. Large ivory white flowers, painted with gold. Four foot stems. Pkt. 25c; special pkg. 60c.

**Iris Pseudacorus**—The Water Iris. Sulphur yellow flowers of medium size, veined with brown, are carried on three foot stems. Plant this in quantity to naturalize in damp places and marsh edges. Also does well under ordinary garden conditions. Pkt. 10c;  $\frac{1}{4}$  oz. 20c; 1 oz. 60c;  $\frac{1}{4}$  lb. \$1.75.

**Iris, Spanish (Iris Xiphium)**—This Iris grows from a true bulb. The flowers have a unique orchid-like beauty and show a wide range of colors and markings, including rich bronze combinations, as well as snowy white, pale blue, purple, primrose, lemon yellow and gold. The Spanish Iris probably lasts longer than any other kind when cut. Pkt. 20c; special pkg. 40c;  $\frac{1}{4}$  oz. 75c; 1 oz. \$2.50.

**Iris Tenax**—A dainty little species. Flowers vary from lavender and purple, to white, mauve pink and claret. Dwarf, and fits well in the rock garden. Thrives in full sun and rather prefers a dry and somewhat heavy soil. Pkt. 15c;  $\frac{1}{4}$  oz. 50c; 1 oz. \$1.75.

**Iris Versicolor**—One of the most interesting of the hardy Irises, violet blue, marked yellow and veined claret. Varies considerably in shade and combination of colors. A showy waterside species, but will also thrive in dry soil. Pkt. 15c; special pkg. 35c.

**Hardy Iris Collection**—One pkt. each of the above 14 kinds for \$2.25.

## THE ALLIUMS

A group of true hardy bulbs, all readily grown from seed, having most charming and dainty bloom. They deserve to be better known and more widely planted. Many of them are good for cutting.

**Allium Moly**—Showy masses of golden flowers, just at Iris time. Entirely hardy. A valuable bulb for rock gardens or borders. Pkt. 15c; special pkg. 35c;  $\frac{1}{4}$  oz. 75c.

**Allium Magicum**—Large clusters of white to violet flowers in mid-summer. A vigorous and free-blooming species. Pkt. 15c; special pkg. 35c.

**Allium Pulchellum**—Clusters of lilac pink flowers, carried on wiry stems. Hardy. Very good. Pkt. 20c; special pkg., 50c.

**Allium Neapolitanum**—Large umbels of fragrant snowy flowers with colored stamens. Forces readily. Outside, hardy with protection. About the finest Allium, but rare. Pkt. 25c.

**Allium Azureum**—A handsome hardy species from Mongolia, bearing heads of sky-blue flowers on tall stems. Rare. Pkt. 30c; special pkg. 80c.

**Allium Blend**—My seed of this comes from a grower who has more than 80 species of hardy ornamental Alliums, and seedlings grown from it should show every color of the rainbow. Pkt. 15c; special pkg. 35c;  $\frac{1}{4}$  oz. 90c; 1 oz. \$3.00.

**Allium Collection**—One pkt. each of the above 6 Alliums for \$1.00.

## NYMPHEA ALBA

An entirely hardy and easily grown snowy white Water Lily from Sweden. Very good for pools or shallow ponds. Pkt. 25c; special pkg. 60c.

## CYRTANTHUS SANGUINEA

Splendid trumpet shaped flowers, buff orange outside but bright scarlet within. Close to Amaryllis. Easily grown. Pkt. 40c.

## THE CACTUS

Cacti carry an ever intriguing interest in their weird and curious stem formations, but quite aside from this, they are worth growing for the richly hued and fragrant flowers that so many of them possess. They are easily raised from seed and fit well into the window garden, or may be used in rockery or border in summer. Some kinds are even winter hardy.

**Cactus, Night Blooming Cereus (C. Nycticalus)**—A magnificent house or greenhouse species, producing immense pure white cup-shaped flowers with orange sepals. These open in early evening and fade the next day. With large specimens there may be several blooms open at once. Has the fragrance of vanilla. 10 seeds for 25c; 45 seeds for \$1.00.

**Cactus, Echinocactus Uncinatus**—Ridged and knobby cylindrical plants growing to six inches, covered with tufts of spines that in young plants are purple but white in older ones. Pretty rosy amaranth flowers in clusters. A particularly easy Cactus for window culture. 15 seeds for 25c; 40 seeds for 50c.

**Cactus, Cephalocereus Senilis**—Old Man Cactus. Fantastic plants covered with long white shaggy hair. 10 seeds for 25c.

**Cactus, Mammillaria Mixed**—The Mammillarias vary greatly in form. They are often globe shaped, but usually with knobby protuberances. Again there may be many cylindrical stems twisted in writhing spiny tangles, or sometimes carried in symmetrical tufts. Many of them have attractive flowers. 25 seeds for 25c; 100 seeds for 75c.

**Cactus, Echinopsis Mixed**—Hedgehog Cactus. This class is remarkable for the bright coloring and great size of its flowers, which seem doubly surprising on the small ribbed globe-like plants. 25 seeds for 25c; 100 seeds for 75c.



**Cactus, Opuntia Mixed**—The Fig Cactus. The species of *Opuntia* range from forms only 6 inches high to ones as tall as 30 feet. Generally the fleshy stem branches are flat and jointed, but species differ as greatly in form as in size. Several kinds bear delicious edible fruit, and all of them have pretty flowers. 30 seeds for 25c; 100 seeds for 65c; 500 seeds for \$2.65.

**Cactus, Ornamental Blend**—Cacti, the most curious of plants in view of their odd diversity of form, are yet among the most beautiful if we consider the perfume, size and brilliant coloring of their flowers. They are particularly suitable for window culture, thriving even under neglect, and they likewise offer an effective contrast when plunged in the rockery for the summer, or grouped attractively in the open border. Tiny Cacti are much used in the new hobby of "dish gardening." All members of the Cactus family grow readily from seed. Pkt. of 35 seeds for 25c; 100 seeds for 60c; 500 seeds for \$2.50; 1000 seeds for \$4.00.

**Cactus, Hardy Blend**—We think of Cacti as rather exotic plants, but there are a number of interesting and variable forms among the lower growing *Opuntias* that are hardy in the north, some even in Canada. These may be left in the open ground the year around, but it is well to give them some protection from heavy snows that may, by their weight, break down the fragile branches. The hardy Cacti all have attractive flowers in shades of sulphur yellow, rose or red-orange. Pkt. of 35 seeds for 25c; 100 seeds for 60c; 500 seeds for \$2.50; 1000 seeds for \$4.00.

**Cactus Collection**—One pkt each of the above 8 Cacti for \$1.75.